

Retail Market Review Response

With reference to the retail market review on the above web page, I heard on BBC Radio 4, the Today programme during this week, that someone regarded the Economy 7 electricity tariff as complex because it contains both day and cheaper night rate unit prices. It also contains initial day units in lieu of the old standing charge.

I have electric storage heaters in my house. Attached is the spreadsheet I keep for monitoring and estimating my E-on electric bill for the winter quarter which is my biggest bill of the year between Nov 2010 and Feb 2011. As you can see, my cheap night units exceed my day units.

Could you please explain more about the "one tariff per payment method" you propose as part of the retail market review and confirm that you have proposals to see that I do not suffer loss if you abolish Economy 7. I should add that my present tariff was entered into last summer and is at a fixed price until July 2011 so, at the moment, I do not feel I have had poor value for money as you can see from the surplus I generated from my DDR payments.

■■■■ invited me to participate in an energy monitor trial and let me keep the unit free of charge which has helped to keep my energy costs down. If you wind up the energy companies so they withdraw this kind of goodwill, your efforts may prove counter-productive. I have no relationship with ■■■■ other than as a customer, via the original ■■■■, then ■■■■ and ■■■■ who were taken over by ■■■■. On balance, I do not have many billing problems and I can usually find a tariff with them that is near the best value tariffs on the comparison sites. We have only had two power cuts in the last 18 months, one caused by the theft of materials from a sub station for about 2 hours and one recently at 06h00 which lasted 45 minutes but was not explained.

I agree that the wide multiplicity of different pricing structures can be confusing and should be simplified but not at the risk of doubling the cost of running my storage heaters if you don't mind.

I look forward to hearing your observations. Thanks.

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